

## SUBPART C – JUNIOR DIVING PROGRAM

### Article 20 – Structure: General

#### 120.1 Structure of Junior Diving.

(a) **Program Goals.** USA Diving conducts a Junior diving program to provide a developmental diving and physical fitness program for the youth of the United States and to teach them the fundamentals of the sport of diving and the benefits of participation in athletic competitions. In addition, the structure of competition within USA Diving's junior diving program is intended to integrate with the senior competitive structure into a cohesive competitive track of diving competition intended to allow each athlete to reach his or her greatest potential within the sport of diving.

(b) **Organization.** The USA Diving Junior diving program is conducted at nine levels of competition. These levels of competition are:

- (1) International competition,
- (2) National Championships,
- (3) Zone Championships,
- (4) Regional Championships,
- (5) Association meets,
- (6) Club-sponsored Invitational meets, and
- (7) Future Champions meets.

(c) **Governance.** The control of these various levels is vested to the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee, Local Diving Associations, Committees and other groups as established by the General Assembly of USA Diving in its Bylaws.

(d) All events, whether sponsored by the Corporation, the Local Diving Association, any member club or other entity, must be sanctioned by the Corporation and such sanction shall be obtained by following the procedures as outlined in Article 16 of the Bylaws.

(e) **International Competition.** The Committee for Competitive Excellence has been established to have the responsibility of overseeing international competitions and exhibitions for Junior divers.

(f) **National Competition.** The Junior Diving Sub-Committee of the CCE has been established to have the responsibility of overseeing competition within the United States, especially with relationship to the Regional, the Zone Championships and the junior portion of the USA Diving National Championships.

(g) **National Championships.** The National Championships have been established to give Junior divers who have developed their diving skills to a very high competitive level the opportunity to perform their skills in competition against other skilled divers from throughout the country. Direction for this competition has been vested with the Chair of the Junior Diving Sub-Committee.

(h) **Zone Championships.** The Zone Championships have been established to provide competition for the highly skilled diver in six large areas of the United States called Zones. These championships are used as a method for progressing to the National Championships. The portions of the Zone Championships which cover group A, B, C and D competition are under the direction of the Chair of the Junior Diving Sub-Committee.

(i) **Regional Championships.** The Regional Championships have been established to provide competition for the skilled diver in 12 small areas of the United States called Regions. These championships are used as a method for progressing to the Zone Championships. They are organized and conducted by Regional Committees under the direction of the Chair of the Junior Diving Sub-Committee.

(j) **Association Competition.** Each Local Diving Committee is responsible for the conduct and/or supervision of Junior Diving in its Local Diving Association.

(k) **Invitational Meets.** Invitational meets may be set up by Club Members. Invitational meets may be combined with other meets as long as each controlling organization carries out its responsibilities for the conduct or control of its individual portion of the competition.

(l) **Future Champions Competition.** Future Champions meets may be set up by Club Members. Future Champions meets may be combined with Invitational meets.

(m) **Junior Elite Diver Program** The High Performance Director, with the approval of the CCE, will establish the criteria for being selected to the Junior Elite Diver Program and develop programming to assist this group as necessary. Such programming will include the authority to pre-qualify divers to any international or domestic meets, Junior or Senior, including, but not limited to: Zone Championships and National Championships. [See Article 2, Section 102.8]

#### 120.2 Dual Citizenship Divers at the Junior and Age Group National Championships.

(1) If any of the qualifiers for the preliminaries or finals are divers with dual citizenship who have declared their "sport nationality" for their other country and have competed for their other country,

the number of competitors in the preliminaries or finals shall be increased by the number of such dual citizenship divers who have qualified for the preliminaries, semifinals, or finals.

(2) This rule does apply to the synchronized diving events if one or both divers have declared their "sport nationality" and have competed for their other country.

(3) This rule does not apply in meets in which foreign divers are permitted to compete.

(4) Dual citizenship divers will affect the results in this manner for the time specified in the FINA rules applying to changing their sport nationalities (currently one year after changing declaration).

### **120.3 Aspects of Competition Specific to Junior Diving.**

(a) All rules and regulations as outlined in Subpart A, General Regulations, shall apply to Junior Diving except as noted or modified in Subpart C, Junior Diving Program. Articles or sections specifically pertaining to Senior Diving or Masters Diving shall not apply unless indicated in Subpart C.

(b) Throughout the year, divers must dive in their FINA-defined age group (as defined by their age on Dec. 31 of that year). In individual events, divers may continue to dive as 16-18 year-olds until they have celebrated their 19<sup>th</sup> birthdays.

(c) (1) **Springboard competition** may be conducted in each of the following age groups for both Boys and Girls: 9 & Under, 10/11, 11 & Under, 12/13 (FINA Group C), 13 & Under, 14/15 (FINA Group B), 16-18 (FINA Group A), 16/17, and 18/19.

(2) **Platform competition** may be conducted in each of the following age groups for both Boys and Girls: 9 & Under, 10-11, 11 & Under, 12/13 (FINA Group C), 13 & Under, 14/15 (FINA Group B), 16-18 (FINA Group A), 16/17, and 18/19.

(3) **Synchronized diving** competition may be conducted in any age group but is normally offered for the combined age grouping of 14 to 18.

(d) (1) At the Regional Championships, the Zone Championships, and the National Championships, competition will be conducted on springboard in the following age groups: 11 & Under, 12/13 (FINA Group C), 14/15 (FINA Group B), and 16-18 (FINA Group A).

(2) At the Zone Championships and the National Championships competition will be conducted on platform in the following age groups: 11 & Under, 12/13 (FINA Group C), 14/15 (FINA Group B), and 16-18 (FINA Group A).

(3) At the Synchronized National Championships competition will be conducted in synchronized diving in the combined 14-18 age group and a 13 & under age group.

(4) The Regional Championship meet directors, at their discretion, may hold 9 & Under springboard events and platform events.

(5) The meet directors at the Regional Championships and the Zone Championships, at their discretion, may hold synchronized diving events.

(6) The optional springboard, platform, and synchronized events mentioned in (d)(4) to (5) above shall not be included in team scoring.

(e) A diver may elect to take a zero on any dive, without prejudice, and remain in the contest. In Regional Championships, the Zone Championships and the National Championships, any diver who has a total score of zero (fails a dive and/or elects to take zeros) on two or more dives may not advance.

(f) The meet director or meet referee has the authority to eliminate any dive if, in the meet director's or meet referee's opinion, circumstances exist which might place the diver in any danger.

(g) In the event that a diver has qualified in the preliminary or semifinal session and then is injured and officially declared by the referee and/or meet physician as unable to start the next session in Junior events, the next-placed diver will move into the semifinals or finals.

(h) Subject to matters arising under Article 19 (amateur eligibility) in the Bylaws, a contest shall be considered complete and the results final for all purposes one hour following the completion of the day's events. Matters timely protested to the meet director or event referee, within one hour following the completion of the day's events, are excepted. In Future Champions meets, greater latitude in application of this rule may be permitted up to a period of 24 hours following the completion of the last day's events.

## **Article 21 – Competition Formats**

### **121.1 Springboard Competition.**

(a) **9 & Under Boys and Girls (five dives).** The contest shall consist of three voluntary dives from different groups and all must be '01 dives in the tuck position (101c, 201c, 301c, 401c), followed by two optional dives from different groups with a degree of difficulty limit of 2.2 on 1-meter and 2.6 on 3-meter. All voluntary dives will have an assigned degree of 1.8 on 1-meter and 1.9 on 3-meter.

(b) **11 & Under/10-11 Boys and Girls (six dives).** For 1-meter and 3-meter springboard, divers will perform three (3) voluntary dives and must all be '01 dives in the tuck position (101c, 201c, 301c, 401c), followed by three (3) optional dives from different groups with a degree of difficulty limit of 2.2 on 1-meter and 2.6 on 3-meter. All voluntary dives will have an assigned degree of 1.8 on 1-meter and 1.9 on 3-meter.

(c) **12/13 (FINA Group C)/13 & Under Girls (eight dives).** For 1-meter and 3-meter springboard, divers will perform five (5) voluntaries from different groups, followed by three optional

dives from different groups. All voluntary dives will have an assigned degree of difficulty of 1.8 on 1-meter and 1.9 on 3-meter. When doing the front/inward voluntary, one (1) must be tuck and one (1) must be pike. When the doing the back/reverse voluntary, divers may choose to do dives in either tuck or pike. There shall be a limit of degree of difficulty of 2.4 for 1-meter optional dives and 2.8 for 3-meter optional dives.

(d) **12/13 (FINA Group C)/13 & Under Boys (eight dives)**. For 1-meter and 3-meter springboard, divers will perform five (5) voluntaries from different groups, followed by three optional dives from different groups. All voluntary dives will have an assigned degree of difficulty of 1.8 on 1-meter and 1.9 on 3-meter. When doing the front/inward voluntary, one (1) must be tuck and one (1) must be pike. When the doing the back/reverse voluntary, divers may choose to do dives in either tuck or pike. There shall be a limit of degree of difficulty of 2.4 for 1-meter optional dives and 2.8 for 3-meter optional dives.

(e) **14/15 (FINA Group B) Boys (nine dives)**. For 1-meter and 3-meter springboard, divers shall perform five voluntary dives, one from each group, with a cumulative degree of difficulty not to exceed 9.0 for one meter and 9.5 for three meter, followed by four optional dives from different groups without limit of degree of difficulty.

(f) **14/15 (FINA Group B) Girls (nine dives)**. For 1-meter and 3-meter springboard, divers shall perform five voluntary dives, one from each group, with a cumulative degree of difficulty not to exceed 9.0 for one meter and 9.5 for three meter, followed by four optional dives from different groups without limit of degree of difficulty.

(g) **16-18 (FINA Group A)/16-17/18-19 Girls (ten (10) dives)**. For 1-meter and 3-meter springboard, divers shall perform five voluntary dives, one from each group, with a cumulative degree of difficulty not to exceed 9.0 for one meter and 9.5 for three meter, followed by five (5) optional dives from five (5) groups without limit of degree of difficulty.

(h) **16-18 (FINA Group A)/16-17/18-19 Boys (eleven (11) dives)**. For 1-meter and 3-meter springboard, divers shall perform five voluntary dives, one from each group, with a cumulative degree of difficulty not to exceed 9.0 for 1-meter and 9.5 for 3-meter, followed by six (6) optional dives from five groups, with one group being repeated, without limit of degree of difficulty.

### 121.2 Platform Competition.

(a) **9 & Under Boys and Girls (4 dives on 5-meter only)**. Divers shall perform two (2) voluntary dives from different groups with a cumulative degree of difficulty not to exceed 3.4, followed by two (2) optional dives from different groups with a degree of difficulty limit of 2.6.

(b) **10-11/11 & Under Boys and Girls (five dives on 5-meter only)**. Divers shall perform three voluntary dives from different groups with a cumulative degree of difficulty not to exceed 5.4, followed by two optional dives from different groups with a degree of difficulty limit of 2.6.

(c) **12/13 (FINA Group C)/13 & Under Girls (six (6) dives on 5- or 7.5-meter only)**. Divers shall perform four (4) voluntary dives from different groups with a cumulative degree of difficulty not to exceed 7.6, followed by two (2) optional dives from different groups with a degree of difficulty limit of 2.8.

(d) **12/13 (FINA Group C)/13 & Under Boys (seven (7) dives on 5- or 7.5-meter only)**. Divers shall perform four (4) voluntary dives from different groups with a cumulative degree of difficulty not to exceed 7.6, followed by three (3) optional dives from different groups with a degree of difficulty limit of 2.8.

(e) **14/15 (FINA Group B) Boys (eight dives on 5-, 7.5-, or 10-meter)**. Divers shall perform four voluntary dives with cumulative degree of difficulty not to exceed 7.6, followed by four optional dives from different groups without limit of degree of difficulty. At least five different groups must be used in the competition.

(f) **14/15 (FINA Group B) Girls (seven dives on 5-, 7.5-, or 10-meter)**. Divers shall perform four voluntary dives with cumulative degree of difficulty not to exceed 7.6, followed by three optional dives from different groups without limit of degree of difficulty. At least five different groups must be used in the competition.

(g) **16-18 (FINA Group A)/16-17/18-19 Girls (nine (9) dives on 5-, 7.5-, or 10-meter)**. Divers shall perform four voluntary dives from different groups with a cumulative maximum degree of difficulty of 7.6, followed by five (5) optional dives from different groups without limit of degree of difficulty.

(h) **16-18 (FINA Group A)/16-17/18-19 Boys (ten (10) dives on 5-, 7.5-, or 10-meter)**. Divers shall perform four voluntary dives from different groups with a cumulative maximum degree of difficulty of 7.6, followed by six (6) optional dives from different groups without limit of degree of difficulty. All six dive groups must be used in the competition.

(i) Any minimum degree of difficulty for optional dives without limit of degree of difficulty in the Zone Championships and the National Championships shall be determined by the Junior Rules Subcommittee.

### 121.3 Competition Formats for Synchronized Diving for 3-Meter and Platform Events.

(a) (1) A synchronized diving competition may be held at Invitational, Association, Regional Championships, and Zone Championships.

(2) A team is composed of only two divers, with no substitutes, diving simultaneously from the springboards or platforms.

(3) The synchronized events are open to any age-group diver and members of a team may be from different clubs or "unattached" divers and may be from different age groups but are to be of the same sex.

(4) The competition is judged on how the two divers individually perform their dives and how the two divers as a team synchronize their performance.

(b) Synchronized competition format:

(1) Combined 16-18 (FINA Group A) and 14/15 (FINA Group B). The competition for boys and girls shall comprise five (5) dives; two (2) rounds of dives with an assigned degree of difficulty of 2.0 for each dive regardless of formula, and three (3) rounds of dives without limit of degree of difficulty. The five (5) rounds of dives must be selected from at least four (4) different groups.

(2) 13 and under. The competition for boys and girls shall comprise five (5) dives; two (2) rounds of dives with an assigned degree of difficulty of 2.0 for each dive regardless of formula, and three (3) rounds of dives without limit of degree of difficulty. The five (5) rounds of dives must be selected from at least three (3) different groups.

(3) No dive number may be repeated in later rounds.

(4) The proper degree of difficulty will be used for each pair of optional dives without limit of degree of difficulty.

(5) In the platform competition, divers may choose to perform their dives from any level of the platform, provided that both divers perform the dives from the same level for each dive. 13-and-under platform events shall be from 5-meter only.

(6) Both divers must do the same dive, number and position.

## Article 22 — National Championships, Junior Events

### 122.1 National Championships.

(a) Annually, there shall be a USA Diving National Championships.

(b) **Eligibility for National Championships.** Divers who are U.S. citizens and meet one of the following standards for an event are eligible to compete in the junior events at the USA Diving National Championships in individual events:

(1) From each Zone Championships,

(a) The top three (3) divers in each springboard event in all age groups shall qualify for the semifinals of the National Championships in those events and the divers placed fourth through 10th will qualify for the preliminaries of the National Championships in those events.

(b) The top three (3) divers in the platform event in all age groups shall qualify for the semifinals of the National Championships in those events and the divers placed fourth through seventh will qualify for the preliminaries of the National Championships in that event.

(c) Should any of the qualifiers in places one (1) through three (3) from the Zone Championships be unable to participate in the Junior National Championships, there shall be no advancement by the next placing diver.

(d) Should any of the qualifiers in places four (4) through 10 on a springboard event or four (4) through seven (7) on a platform event from any of the Zone Championships be unable to participate in the National Championships, the Meet Director of the Zone Championships so affected shall contact the next finalist in order of finish in that event to complete the qualifiers for that event. No diver who finishes below 16th place shall be considered. Prequalified divers will not be included in this search.

(2) **Alaska.** One male and one female diver per age group, registered and training in the state of Alaska, may compete in the preliminaries of the National Championships in their FINA age group without attending a Zone Championships. These divers must be designated by the Chair of their Association and submit their qualifications to the Junior Rules Subcommittee Chair no fewer than 30 days prior to the National Championships.

(3) **Hawaii.** One male and one female diver per age group, registered and training in the state of Hawaii, may compete in the preliminaries of the National Championships in their FINA age group without attending a Zone Championships. These divers must be designated by the Chair of their Association and submit their qualifications to the Junior Rules Subcommittee Chair no fewer than 30 days prior to the National Championships.

(4) Current National YMCA Champions in all age groups shall be qualified for the

preliminaries of the National Championships only in the events they won.

(5) There shall be no exhibition divers in the National Championships. [See Article 2, Section 102.5 and Section 102.8]

(6) Military Dependent Accommodation. If a diver has a parent who is in the military and has been relocated at a time that prevents a diver from competing in a qualifying meet, that diver can advance to the next level qualifying meet automatically. For example, if a diver misses a Region Championship because of a military relocation, then that diver can automatically be advanced to a Zone Championship. If they qualified to Zones from regionals but would miss zones, then they can automatically advance to the preliminaries of the national championship in all events. Military orders would need to be submitted to USA Diving as verification that the move transpired as stated.

(c) **Competition Format for the National Championships.**

(1) The number of dives to be performed in each individual event is set forth in Article 21, Sections 121.1 and 121.2.

(a) Preliminaries: The divers placed fourth through 10<sup>th</sup> on springboard events and fourth through seventh on platform events at the Zone Championships will compete in the preliminary event for Groups A, B, C and D at the National Championships.

(b) Semifinals: The top three divers from each of the Zone Championships plus the top six divers from the preliminaries of the National Championships will compete in the semifinals for Groups A, B, C and D.

(c) Finals: The top 12 divers from the semifinals at the National Championships for Groups A, B, C and D will compete in the finals. The scores of the dives with limit from the semifinal session will be carried forward and added to the scores in the final competition to determine the 12 rankings. Divers finishing between 12<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> place will be ranked by their semifinal scores. Divers finishing below 30<sup>th</sup> place will be ranked by their preliminary scores.

(d) **Order of Events.** The order of events for the National Championships shall be determined by the meet director, the chair of the Junior Diving Committee and the Junior Rules Subcommittee Chair.

(e) **Judge Selection.**

(1) The method of selection of judges at the National Championships for the individual events shall be determined by the Chair of the Junior Diving Committee, and may require potential judges to enter online with a designated meet management system.

(2) Judging panels for the National Championships shall be selected from the same zone alignment prescribed in 136.27.

(3) **Judging Panels for the Preliminaries of Individual Events.**

(i) In the Preliminaries there shall be two panels of seven judges. Each panel shall have one judge from each of the six Zones as shown in the following table.

Event	Panel A	Panel B
Event #1	ABCDEF A	BCDEFAB
Event #2	CDEFABC	DEFABCD
Event #3	EFABCDE	FABCDEF
...and so on through all events		

(ii) One alternate per judging zone will be drawn for each event.

(iii) The Zone Meet Director shall serve as the Zone Judging Chair.

(iv) The Zone Judging Chairs, or their designees, will be prepared to provide at least three judges and one alternate per event and shall submit the name of a contact for that Zone to be present at the National Championships. Each Zone Judging Chair shall find and submit at least three names of neutral judges to judge the finals of each event.

(v) No two judges shall be from the same Association in an event.

(vi) Calculations for scores with seven judges shall be computed by deleting the two high and two low awards, then multiplying the sum of the remaining three awards by the Degree of Difficulty.

(4) **Judging Panel Rotations for Individual Events.** At the National Championships, there shall be a referee in charge of each panel, and two panels of seven judges, each of which shall rotate according to the following schedule in the Preliminary rounds.

(i) In the Boys' and Girls' 11 & Under Platform contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

Panel A: rounds 1, 2, and 5

Panel B: rounds 3, 4

(ii) In the Boys' and Girls' 11 & Under Springboard and the Girls' 12-13 Platform contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

Panel A: rounds 1, 2, and 6

Panel B: rounds 3, 4, 5

(iii) In the Girls' 12-13 Springboard, and the Boys' 12-13 and Girls' 14-15 Platform contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

- Panel A: rounds 1, 2, and 5, 6
- Panel B: rounds 3, 4, and 7

In the unlikely event that the dives without limit of DD must be performed first in a seven-dive contest, the panel rotation shall be the same.

(iv) In the Boys' 12-13 and Girls' 14-15 Springboard and the Boys' 14-15 Platform contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

- Panel A: rounds 1, 2 and 5, 6
- Panel B: rounds 3, 4, and 7, 8

In the unlikely event that the dives without limit of DD must be performed first in an eight-dive contest, the panel rotation shall be the same.

(v) In the Boys' 14-15 Springboard contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

- Panel A: rounds 1, 2, 3, and 6, 7
- Panel B: rounds 4, 5, and 8, 9

In the unlikely event that the dives without limit of DD must be performed first in a nine-dive springboard contest, the panels shall rotate as follows:

- Panel A: 1, 2, and 5, 6, 7
- Panel B: 3, 4, and 8, 9

(vi) In Girls' 16-18 Springboard contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

- Panel A: rounds 1, 2, 3, and 7, 8
- Panel B: rounds 4, 5, 6, and 9, 10

In the unlikely event that the dives without limit of DD must be performed first in a 10-dive springboard contest, the panels shall rotate as follows:

- Panel A: 1, 2, 3 and 6, 7
- Panel B: 4, 5 and 8, 9, 10

(vii) In Boys' 16-18 springboard contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

- Panel A: rounds 1, 2, 3, and 7, 8, 9
- Panel B: rounds 4, 5, 6, and 10, 11

In the unlikely event that the dives without limit of DD must be performed first in an 11-dive springboard contest, the panels shall rotate as follows:

- Panel A: 1, 2, 3 and 7, 8, 9
- Panel B: 4, 5, 6 and 10, 11

(viii) In the Girls' 16-18 platform contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

- Panel A: rounds 1, 2 and 5, 6, 7
- Panel B: rounds 3, 4 and 8, 9

In the unlikely event that the dives without limit of DD must be performed first in a nine-dive platform contest, the panels shall rotate as follows:

- Panel A: 1, 2, 3, and 6, 7
- Panel B: 4, 5, and 8, 9

(ix) In the Boys' 16-18 platform contests, the panels will rotate as follows:

- Panel A: rounds 1, 2 and 5, 6, 7
- Panel B: rounds 3, 4 and 8, 9, 10

In the unlikely event that the dives without limit of DD must be performed first in a 10-dive platform contest, the panels shall rotate as follows:

- Panel A: 1, 2, 3, and 7, 8
- Panel B: 4, 5, 6, and 9, 10

**(5) Judging Panels for Finals of Individual Events.**

(i) The judging panel for the finals shall consist of a single panel of seven judges who judged the preliminaries for that event. If not enough judges from the preliminary event's panels are available to serve on the panel for an event's final, then judges shall be selected from outside the preliminary event's panels. Judges' representation by Zones shall be selected according to the below table. If a Zone does not have an entry in an event, then the duplicate (repeat) Zone judges shall be replaced by judges from Zones which have no diver in the contest.

First Event	ABCDEFA
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Second Event	BCDEFAB
Third Event	CDEFABC
Fourth Event	DEFABCD
Fifth Event	EFABCDE
Sixth Event	FABCDEF
...and so on through all events	

(ii) No two judges in an event shall be from the same Association.

(6) Other parties desiring to judge shall, at their convenience, contact the Judging Chair from their Zone.

(7) Parents, spouses, or siblings will not be permitted to judge or be a referee in an event in which an offspring, spouse, or sibling competes. Two members of the same family will not be permitted to judge and/or be a referee on the same panel. The announcer/third referee shall be exempt from this provision.

### **122.2 USA Diving Synchronized National Championships**

#### **(a) Eligibility for Synchronized Diving National Championships**

The CCE will set the eligibility requirements and format for the USA Diving Synchronized National Championships.

#### **(b) Competition Format for Synchronized Diving National Championships.**

The CCE will set the competition requirements and format for the USA Diving Synchronized National Championships. These requirements may be different than what is set forth in Article 21, Section 121.3 and may include additional voluntary dives and fewer optional dives than as shown above.

### **122.3 Referees.**

(a) The dive shall be performed after the signal is given by the referee. Such signal shall be given only after the referee has checked the indicator board or the computer printout. When the signal is given by the referee, the diver shall proceed to the starting position for his or her dive.

(b) For all takeoffs starting in a stationary position at the end of the springboard or platform in which the diver is performing a back, reverse, inward, or armstand takeoff, the diver shall wait until a signal is given by the referee before advancing to the end of the board.

(c) An audible signal device shall not be used during simultaneous events.

## **Article 23 – Zone Championships Competition**

### **123.1 Competition Formats for Zone Championships.**

(a) The number of dives to be performed in each event is as set forth in Article 21.

(b) In all springboard and platform events at the Zone Championships, all divers shall do their entire list of dives without cuts. The exception to this is outlined in 123.3 (b).

(c) For platform events, any DD requirement for all age groups will be determined by the Junior Rules Subcommittee.

**123.2 Judge Selection at Zone Championships.** Judge selection shall take place at the coaches' meeting prior to the first day's events. Judges may be selected by a blind draw, a sign-up sheet, endorsement of a list prepared in advance by the meet director or the director's designee, or by requiring potential judges to enter online with the designated meet management system. Insofar as possible, the pool of available judges shall be utilized so as to provide relatively equal geographic representation of the athletes. Judges must be designated by team names or by the diver's name if the diver is unattached.

### **123.3 Judging Panel Rotations for Individual Events.**

(a) Meet directors shall utilize the procedures outlined in Article 22, Section 122.1(i)(4)(i)-(ix)

(b) Meet directors must make cuts if over 40 divers are registered in any 16-18 age group event and shall utilize the procedures as outlined in Article 22, Section 122.1(i)(4)(vi)-(ix).

**Note:** For other items related to zone competition, please see Subpart F, Article 38

## Article 24 – Regional Competition

### 124.1 Judge Selection at Regional Championships.

(a) Judges may be selected either by a blind draw, a sign-up sheet, endorsement of a list prepared in advance by the meet director or the director's designee, or by requiring potential judges to enter online with the designated meet management system. Insofar as possible, the pool of available judges shall be distributed so as to provide relatively equal geographic representation of the athletes and must be designated by team names or by coach name if diver is unattached.

(b) Certification shall not be required in order to serve on a judging panel.

### 124.2 Referees.

(a) The dive shall be performed after the signal is given by the referee; such signal shall be given only after the referee has checked the indicator board or the computer printout. When the signal is given by the referee, the diver shall proceed to the starting position for his or her dive.

(b) For all takeoffs starting in a stationary position at the end of the springboard or platform in which the diver is performing a back, reverse, inward, or armstand takeoff, the diver shall wait until a signal is given by the referee to advance to the end of the board.

(c) An audible signal device shall not be used during simultaneous events.

**Note:** For other items related to regional competition, please see Subpart F, Article 38

## Article 25 – Other Junior Competition

### 125.1 Invitational Meets.

(a) Local meets may be modified to accommodate local conditions, preferences, limited facilities and personnel.

(b) Invitational meets must be sanctioned by USA Diving as outlined in Article 16 of the Bylaws.

(c) Eligibility for participation is open to all USA Diving registered athletes, except Limited Athlete registered athletes, in accordance with Bylaws, Subpart A, Article 2, Section 2.1 (a); Subpart B, Article 15, Sections 15.1 to 15.4; and Subpart C of the Bylaws of USA Diving.

(d) It is recommended that invitational meets be conducted under the Rules governing Junior Diving.

(e) In Invitational Junior Meets, fees to be charged and any differences in the rules (such as age grouping, the events, the number of dives to be performed by each age group, the diving order, or the number of finalists), must be clearly stated on the entry blanks.

(f) Athletes registered as Competitive Blue and Competitive Gold have the choice to dive at the Future Champions, Junior, Senior, or Masters competitive level in all sanctioned meets, as long as they meet the age range, and any other competition requirements, listed for an event.

(g) For information on Future Champions competition, see Subpart D.